

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application

Inventor(s): Zucherman, et al.

Appl. No.: 10/694,103

Conf. No.: 3095

Filed: October 27, 2003

Title: INTERSPINOUS PROCESS IMPLANT  
WITH RADIOLUCENT SPACER AND  
LEAD-IN TISSUE EXPANDER

**PATENT APPLICATION**

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Swiger III, James L.

Atty. Docket No.: SFMT-01077US1

**Customer No. 23910**

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This Reply is in response to the final Office Action dated November 16, 2006. A Request for Continued Examination, an Information Disclosure Statement and the required fees accompany this Reply.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.